GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1056
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2016
Raw Material from China
Adsul Shri Anandrao ;Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh;Raghavan Shri M. K.;Raut Shri Vinayak Bhaurao;Shewale Shri Rahul Ramesh;Shinde Dr. Shrikant Eknath;Shrirang Shri Chandu Barne;Yadav Shri Dharmendra

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that almost 65 per cent of raw material for the formulation of antibiotic and other vital medicines in the country is coming from China, if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the Government is contemplating on various measures to reduce the dependence on China for the said raw material;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard;

(d) the measures being taken by the Government to ensure that raw material for the formulation of medicines is made available in the country; and

(e) whether the Government is aware that substandard raw material is being imported into the country and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS; MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a): Yes, Madam. The details of India's imports of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients from top 5 countries during the last three years is as under:
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Years Total import
(Rs. crores) Imports from China
(Rs. crores) Imports from Germany
(Rs. crores) Imports from USA
(Rs. crores) Imports from Italy
(Rs. crores) Imports from Singapore
(Rs. crores)
2013-14 18991.14 12061.53
(63.51%) 1293.70
(6.81%) 855.14
(4.5%) 557.20
(2.93%) 159.71
(0.84%)
2014-15 19833.20 12757.96
(64.33%) 1172.05
(5.91%) 791.17
(3.99%) 644.38
(3.25%) 241.25
(1.22%)
2015-16 21216.91 13853.20
(65.29%) 1054.69
(4.97%) 979.28
(4.62%) 662.42
(3.12%) 593.57
(2.8%)
(Source CMIE economic outlook)

However, in certain cases, these imports are taking place because of economic considerations.

(b) (c) & (d): Yes, Madam. The government has withdrawn exemption of customs duty on certain categories on Bulk Drugs/APIs to provide equal level playing field to the domestic manufacturers. Further, the government is clearing bottlenecks like environment clearance etc. which the manufacturers are facing in order to give a boost to domestic manufacturing of bulk drugs.

(e): The import of Bulk Drugs/APIs used in the manufacture of formulations is regulated under the provisions of Drugs & Cosmetics Act.

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